

The Full Scope of Our Salvation

Lesson Three — The Salvation of the Soul

In the past two lessons we have been looking at our salvation as it relates to the creation of man. We have seen that we cannot understand the full scope of our salvation *unless* and *until* we understand that:

- The purpose for which God created man is the same for which God is saving man to rule over the earth in Satan's stead.
- The man was created in God's image and likeness:
 - Made in three parts — spirit, soul and body:
 - Spirit — the God-conscious part of man (God breathed His Breath His Spirit) into the man
 - Soul — the man-conscious (or the self-conscious — his emotions, feelings and desires)
 - Body — the flesh, bones and blood part of man (that which houses both the spirit and soul).
 - Covered in glory, awaiting the reception of the garments of splendor and majesty, reflecting God's image.
- Adam's sin brought about death as it relates to all three parts.
- Every individual ever born to a man and a woman is born in the image and likeness of Adam; born dead in trespasses and sin (i.e., born separated from God and his created purpose).
- Salvation, in its full scope, addresses all three parts of man — the spirit and the soul and the body.

Salvation must begin with the spirit — the God-conscious part of man. Spiritual birth is the work that only God can do, and the only thing that an individual can do is to *believe what God says about it* — Jesus died on the cross for our sins. And in believing what God says about the death and shed blood of Jesus as Passover, a person passes out of death into life; this is their *spiritual birth* (Eph. 2:4, 5, 8, 9)

This spiritual birth is the beginning point of the life-long process in our being *preserved complete* at the coming of the Lord. Remember Paul wrote in **I Thessalonians 5:23 Now**

may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Just as our physical birth places us within a particular family on earth, so our spiritual birth places us within the family of God. **Ro 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...** Apart from our spirit *being born from above*, we could not receive the witness from God's Spirit that we are His child.

But there is more to salvation than just our spiritual birth, though so many Christians think that salvation begins and ends there. What is depicted at the very beginning of God's Word continues to be instructive for us. At end of Genesis chapter three, we can see that there is more to the overall scope of redemption. **Genesis 3:21 And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. 22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"-- 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life.**

First we will note that it was God Who did the work of covering the man and the woman in the skins of the sacrificed animal (v. 21). As we have seen, that which God did on their behalf brings them back into spiritual union with Him, this being Scripture's initial picture of spiritual birth (or *re-birth*, in the case of Adam and Eve). But it is easy to see that the man and the woman were in no way prepared to step into the position for which they were created. They had come to *know* evil experientially, therefore their soul—their emotions, feelings and desires—had become corrupted, and their bodies had lost the covering of glory, and could no longer be clothed in garments of splendor and majesty.

Let's consider their personal knowledge of evil. Immediately after God covered their utter nakedness with the skins of the sacrificed animal in v. 21, God spoke **Genesis 3:22 "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil...** Stated herein is the condition of the man's soul. The man and woman had come to know evil *experientially* when they disobeyed God by partaking of the forbidden fruit. We'll remember Satan said to the woman: **Genesis 3:4... "You surely shall not die! 5 For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."** One thing we must understand about God is that God cannot **know** evil through personal experience (if I can say it like that)! God had *witnessed* evil in the actions of Satan in an age past, but God Himself cannot commit evil, as He is God (*cf.* James 1:13). In Satan's deception of the woman, he twisted the truth causing her to question God's good intentions for them, thus deceiving her! God had commanded the man not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, as He did not want them to *know* evil; God only wanted them to know good. And once they disobeyed His command, they had come to know evil through personal experience, which corrupted their soul!

And in this knowledge and experience of evil, death affected their whole being—spirit, soul, and body. So we see God bringing them back into spiritual union with Him, through

the death and shed blood of an innocent animal, and God covering them with the skins, the work of His own hands. But the salvation of their souls and the redemption of their bodies would be yet future. Therefore, we see God completing the statement concerning their condition subsequent to spiritual birth: **22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”...** As evidenced by God’s Own Words, He did not want them to live *forever* with a redeemed spirit, and an unredeemed soul and body. (You can review how the death of the soul and the body should be understood on pp. 15, 16 in this series.) And so, God took an action that might seem surprising to some, but when fit into the overall scope of salvation, His action makes perfect sense. Because He did not want the man *to stretch out his hand and take also from the tree of life and live forever* **23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life.** It was not God’s desire for the man and the woman to have physical *immortality* in a *partially redeemed state*.

Forever

We should note here that the Hebrew word translated *forever* at the end of v. 22 is the transliterated word *olam*. This word literally means *for a long period of time*. The Greek counterpart to this Hebrew word is *aión* which also literally means *a period of time*. It is interesting that neither of the two languages through which God gave His Word—the Hebrew and Greek—has a word that is comparable to our English word *eternity*. Of course any of the authors of the Bible could express the *concept of eternity*, but he would have to use a series of words, or the plural form of the word in order to get across the concept of *eternity*. But in the passage in Genesis chapter three, the singular form of the word *olam* is used, literally meaning *for a [singular] long period of time*.

All of this should cause us to realize the fact that there is more to salvation than the simple free gift of eternal life, i.e., our spiritual birth. So let’s go back to Romans 8:16 and see how God reveals the full scope of salvation in this passage.

Track 2

The Full Scope of Salvation Laid Out in Romans Chapter Eight

Once an individual has put faith in the death and shed blood of Jesus Our Passover, he/she becomes a Child of God. Being a Child of God also makes that individual an heir to God! **Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God...** This becomes imperative to grasp in light of the ongoing process of our salvation! Being placed within the family of God (through spiritual birth), allows one to be an heir of God. Inheritance is a family matter—only children in a family are heirs. Then, from a Scriptural standpoint, there is a status within the family that is greater than simply being an heir—it is the status of *the firstborn son*. We know that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son, the Firstborn of God, and as such He is the One who will receive the Firstborn Son’s inheritance! And though we are not firstborn sons through our spiritual birth, there is something that *we can do* (a process to which we can attain) in order to become a co-heir with Jesus. It is this ongoing process that

has to do with the facets of salvation, which address the soul and body. The conditional process required to becoming a co-heir with Christ is stated clearly in the last half of **Romans 8:17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God, and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.** Notice in this passage, being glorified with Christ is one-and-the-same as being a fellow-heir with Christ, and is based upon a particular condition being fulfilled. As a Child of God, we are not counted as a firstborn son – a fellow heir with Christ – *unless we are willing to suffer with Him!* (Here is where we get the phrase “suffering always precedes glory.”) We will look to see what it means to suffer with Christ a bit later, but for now let’s look at what the Firstborn Son within the Family of God receives!

The Inheritance of the First Born Son

Look at **Hebrews 1:2 in these last days [God] has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.** Here it states that Jesus is the heir of *all things*. With respect to this, at some point in eternity past, God the Father had told the Son: **Psalm 2:8 ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Thine inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Thy possession...** This passage reveals that Jesus’ inheritance has to do with this world – the inhabited earth. So then, the co-heirs with Christ will receive the exact same inheritance as Jesus receives!

With all of this in mind, let’s go back to a passage we looked at last week. **Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast.** If faith alone is what it takes to have spiritual birth, thereby placing us within the Family of God as an heir of God, then what does it take to realize the *salvation of the soul* and the *redemption of the body*? And would the salvation of the soul and the redemption of the body have to do with becoming a co-heir with Christ, as a firstborn son? We should note that vv. 8, 9 in Ephesians chapter two are followed by v **10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

In the Family of God, In the Body of Christ

The Scriptures teach that not only does one become part of the Family of God through faith in Jesus as Passover, but that individual is also seen as being part of the Body of Christ (I Cor. 12:12, 27). Do you remember when God put Adam into a deep sleep, and opened up his side in order to form the woman? In a literal sense, the woman had been created in Adam, and later removed from his body in order to be built into his wife. (Hence the meaning of the name “woman” for she was taken out of the man.) Now compare this to **Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

We’ll remember that Adam is a type of Christ (Rom. 5:14b). After Christ died – the antitype to Adam’s *deep sleep* – His side was opened up and out flowed blood and water – the two elements that would be used to build the Bride for Christ. It is through our spiritual birth that we have been *created in Christ Jesus*. And just as it was in the type, so it will be in the Antitype! As it was with Adam, so will it be with Christ. The bride of

Christ will be taken out of the Body of Christ and will be built into a wife. Individuals who have been created in Christ Jesus, and who presently take advantage of the *blood* and the *water* which flowed from His side *after His death* as Passover will be built into His Bride. These will be individuals who through regular confession, will be cleansed from their sins, through Christ's *blood* on the Mercy Seat in heaven; they are those who through diligent study of God's Word, will be continually washed by the *water* of the Word. Remember that Ephesians 5:32 says that *this mystery is great! But I speak of Christ and the Church.*

Becoming a Child of God has to do with our spiritual birth. Spiritual birth places us as a Child of God, and a member of the Body of Christ. But becoming the Bride of Christ and a co-heir with Christ as a first born son takes more than faith in the death of the Jesus as Passover; it takes a willingness to suffer with Him. He died *in* the flesh, leaving us an example as to how we are to die *to* the flesh. In this, we see that it is that which *follows* our spiritual birth each of us must be concerned with if we are to realize the salvation of our soul and the redemption of our body. *After* we have been born spiritually, there is a Scriptural expectation of works on our part. Paul says: **Philippians 2:12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling...** Here we see that the *working out of our own salvation in fear and trembling* has to do with obedience, which has to do with the salvation of the soul. In this salvation there is an ongoing expectation of bringing our corrupted soul (our perverted emotions, feelings, and desires) under the control of the Holy Spirit. Herein is our choice: to either walk by the spirit and fulfill the desires of the Spirit, or walk by our corrupted fleshly desires and fulfill the desires of our flesh (cf. Rom. 8:5, 6).

The *salvation of the soul*, then, is the process through which we learn to bring our corrupted desires, feelings and emotions under submission to our redeemed spirit, through working in conjunction with the Holy Spirit. This is what the *working out of our own salvation in fear and trembling* is all about. And we can easily see in this passage in Philippians, that God does not leave us to our own devices to do this work of obedience, as we read in the next verse of **Philippians 2:13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.** God is *in* us through His indwelling Holy Spirit, which He breathed into us at our spiritual birth, and through His Spirit, He is at work *in* us *both to will and to work for His good pleasure!*

In all of this, we must remember that faith is the foundation from which all of our work must emanate. Not only must the righteous man live by faith (Rom. 1:17), but also faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ (Rom. 10:17). Our faith is *not* to stop at the death of Jesus as our Passover. We are to believe in the death of Jesus as our Passover, but then we are to keep believing what God has said about things beyond His death! It would be these things — things beyond His death as Passover — that surround the salvation of the soul and redemption of the body.

So now let's set down a few facts *about the separation of the spirit and the soul* as it is presented in Scripture, because so many Christians have been taught to believe that the spirit and the soul are one and the same. They are not!

SALVATION — THE SALVATION OF THE SOUL

To see that the soul and the spirit are separate by the Word of God, one would only have to turn to a passage in **Hebrews 4:12** **For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.** It is *the Word of God that separates the soul and the spirit*. When a person is born spiritually through faith in God's Word, the spirit is enlightened and the soul remains in darkness. As stated previously then, *the salvation of the soul is the process through which we learn to bring our corrupted desires, feelings and emotions under submission to our redeemed spirit, through working in conjunction with the Holy Spirit* towards a transformation, a metamorphosis. **Romans 12:2** **And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.**

With that in mind, we want to look at some of the passages that *explicitly* use the phrase *salvation of the soul*. First we will look at: **James 1:21** **Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.** **22** **But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.** (NASB) The salvation of the soul has to do with our being *doers* of the Word and not merely hearers! The Epistle of James is a book that draws specific attention to *the work expected of saved individuals* (individuals who have already put faith in the work that Jesus did on the cross as Passover, thereby experiencing spiritual birth), and this work (on the part of the individual) is seen within the context of the salvation of the soul. Notice the inward work that a saved individual must do: *put aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness*, as he works in conjunction with the indwelling Holy Spirit. It is important to *hear* the Word (because faith comes by hearing) but it is also important to *do* the word as we see that *doing* (the obedience part) will result in the saving of the soul! But the doing must be based upon faith believing what God says about something! Outward works will automatically follow inward work, the expectation of which is exemplified in the second chapter of James! (But I will leave that to your own perusal!)

There is another passage which explicitly uses the term *the salvation of the soul*. It is found in **I Peter 1:9** **obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.** In this context, the phrase *salvation of your souls* is used within a larger context that explains *what* the salvation of the soul has to do with. Let's read v. 9 in its larger context: **I Peter 1:3** **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the**

resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, 7 that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

In this passage, our *hope* is seen in connection to a *heavenly inheritance* for those who *through faith* are *protected by the power of God* unto a *salvation* which will be revealed at the *revelation of Jesus Christ*, which is in the last time. The text reveals that this salvation is obtained as *the goal, the outcome* of our faith – the salvation of our soul¹. It is *this* salvation which addresses the death of the soul (its propensity toward evil); it is this salvation that is the inheritance as a co-heir with Christ, which we will remember from Romans 8:17 is connected with sharing Christ's glory and will only be the lot of those who are willing to suffer with Him. And to the degree that we are willing to suffer (to die to our fleshly desires), we will share in His glory! **I Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.** But let's be clear what it means to "suffer with Christ." The whole book of I Peter lays out exactly what suffering with Christ has to do with! Christ died *in* the flesh, leaving us an example of how we are to die *to* the flesh! (Again, I will leave that to your own perusal of I Peter, as well!)

Track 4

The inheritance, which is dealt with in I Peter 1, is not referring to the inheritance as a child of God, but rather the inheritance as a firstborn son of God! This inheritance affords an individual the ability to equally share in Christ's glory and honor at His revelation, which is the coming of the Lord. This is *the goal of our faith*, it is from faith to faith – from faith in the death and shed blood of Jesus as our Passover to faith in things beyond His death as Passover, things concerning His inheritance as the Firstborn Son. The individuals attaining to the salvation of the soul will share in and be covered with the glory of Christ when He comes again!

And to see that there is *a future salvation that is yet to be inherited* we would only have to read **Hebrews 1:13 But to which of the angels has He [God] ever said, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR THY FEET"?** 14 **Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?** And to see that this salvation is yet future,

¹ Remember, the salvation of the *soul* is the process through which we learn to bring our corrupted soul under submission to the Holy Spirit, through our redeemed spirit.

you only need to turn to **Hebrews 9:27** **And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, 28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.**

It is *this* salvation toward which we must strive! Paul spoke of striving for this goal in **Philippians 3:12** **Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect, but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus...**It is easy to see in Paul's words that he is pressing for something beyond the free gift; he presses forward towards something he has not yet attained. It is the *goal of the prize of the upward call* the reward of the salvation of the soul, which is to be inherited by those who attain to the salvation of the soul, thus becoming a co-heir with Christ!

And concerning the trials and testing of everyday life within this process, God has said: **Hebrews 10:36** **For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God [i.e., walking in obedience in the midst of life's trials], you may receive the promise: 37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him" 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition [Lit. loss or destruction], but of those who believe to the saving of the soul. (NKJV) Suffering always precedes glory. And the suffering that God is speaking about in His Word is dying to the soul's fleshly desires; dying to the corrupt nature inherited as a result of Adam's sin! We all know what those fleshly desires are! **Galatians 5:16** **But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (Notice here in this passage, the Kingdom of God has to do with an inheritance. This inheritance has to do with the facet of salvation that is *the inherited salvation* the salvation of the soul as we have just seen in the previous passages! Now continuing in Galatians chapter five) **22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.** This passage clearly states that those who walk according to the flesh will not inherit the kingdom of God. This is a passage directed to family members, because inheritance is a family matter (*cf.* I Cor. 6: 9-11).****

In all the passages, which we have seen thus far wherein the term *salvation of the soul* is explicitly used, the English word for *soul* comes from the Greek word *psuche*.² So, let's compare the words *spirit* and *soul*, to see the distinctions.

- The word *spirit* is from the Greek word *pneuma* and is used 350 times in the NT, being translated *spirit* 349 times; and *breath* one time. *Pneuma is never translated soul.*
- The word *soul* is from the Greek word *psuche* and is used 95 times in the NT, being translated 88 times either *soul* or *life* the two words being used interchangeably. *Psuche is never translated spirit.*

We'll remember that salvation is depicted in Scripture as not only being *delivered out of something*, but also being *delivered into something else*. With that in mind, we must understand that the spiritual birth and the salvation of the soul are two separate and distinct facets of salvation as it is presented in Scripture:

- Our spiritual birth is a free gift based upon faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ, and once gained, cannot be lost. This salvation *delivers an individual out of eternal spiritual separation* from God and *delivers that person into eternal union* with God, which is the present condition of saved individuals, and which will last into all eternity.
- The salvation of the soul is a reward based upon one's own work as he/she works in conjunction with the Holy Spirit. There is a transformation (a metamorphosis) that is to take place within each saved person, as they allow the Holy Spirit to guide them *not* to walk by the corrupted fleshly desires, but to walk according to their redeemed spirit (Rom. 12:2). (Remember the division that takes place by the Word of God between the soul and the spirit in Heb. 4:12?) The outcome of this transformation will be determined at the JSOC, when Jesus then as Judge will reveal each individual's success or failure in this transformation. A successful outcome will be the gain of the salvation of the soul, and will *deliver that individual out of being separated from Christ and His glory*, and *delivers them into union with Christ in His glory* when He comes again; the failure of this transformation will be the loss of this facet of salvation, resulting in continued separation from His glory. The ramifications of this judgment will be realized in and throughout the Coming Age, the 1,000 year reign of Christ when He comes to rule over the earth with His co-heirs. This salvation has *nothing* to do with eternity, with the *eternal* ages.

The future 1,000 year Messianic Kingdom is still in time and space, and still has to do with this present earth. In no way, shape, or form is it part of eternity future. It is still calibrated in time as we know it, and is referred to in Scripture as the Coming Age, the Day of the Lord, the Age of the Ages, among other names. It is only *after* this 1,000-year period that God does away with this present earth, creating a new earth with the heavenly city resting upon the new earth, and the future eternal ages ensue.

² That some translators chose to drop this Greek word *psuche*, even when it appears in the text of the original language is a conundrum. For example, the NIV translators completely dropped the word *soul* both in James 1:21 and Hebrews 10:39.

Reward vs. Loss

Scriptures make it abundantly clear that Christians can either gain the reward of the salvation of the soul, or suffer the loss thereof. Let's look at **I Corinthians 3:10 ...But let each man be careful how he builds upon it [the foundation]. 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. 14 If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.** Verse 15 makes it clear that the loss is experienced by someone who is saved. This would be referring to the loss of the soul/life in the Coming Age. This passage is dealing with the Judgment Seat of Christ, at which all Christians will stand before Jesus as our Judge. All judgment has been given to Him, and He will be the righteous Judge, Who will judge without partiality. **Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. 25 For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.**

The basis for *all* judgment is works. All Christians will be judged to see *how they lived their lives after becoming a Child of God*. There is a plethora of passages both in the Old and New Testaments which attest to the fact that we will be judged according to what we have done! Here is one out of the many: **II Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.** Thankfully, Jesus is not Judge yet! Presently, Jesus is our High Priest, offering a cleansing for any and all sins we would confess. **I John 1:9 says: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** Right now, Jesus offers us a cleansing through the blood and water which flowed from His side after His death. And any individual availing himself of this cleansing work of Jesus as High Priest through confession will have any and all sins cleansed and remembered no more. This confession on our part and ministry on Jesus' part have to do with saved people who desire to work out their own salvation in fear and trembling, people who desire to realize the salvation of their soul.

As we come to a close in this lesson, there may be someone who wonders (perhaps even worries) about whether or not they are "doing enough". They may wonder exactly what *dying to the flesh* really means; what it actually looks like. Dying to the flesh is really the exact same as walking in the spirit. If you go back and read the passage from Galatians chapter five, you will see the differences between the *deeds of the flesh* and the *fruit of the spirit* (pg. 32). It's not the idea that there is a certain amount that you must do; rather it is a lifestyle. A person either desires to please the Lord, or desires to please himself. There really is no middle ground here. And remember, God will work in conjunction with you

to *desire to do His good pleasure*. Ask Him, and then trust Him. Most happily and willingly He will work in you both *to will* and *to work for His good pleasure*. It is simply a matter of being faithfully obedient to God's Word. And in order for a person to be **faithfully** obedient, that obedience must come out of *hearing, knowing, understanding, and believing* what God's Word says.

Philippians 2:12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. **13** for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. In the end, the outcome of the salvation of the soul or the loss of the soul has to do with occupying or not occupying a position with Christ as a ruler in the coming kingdom living with Him in the Coming Age in that respect. Again, *the salvation of the soul is the process through which we learn to bring our corrupted soul under submission to the Holy Spirit, through our redeemed spirit*. And in our next Lesson we will see how this facet of salvation is inextricably linked to the Redemption of the Body. Please continue to pray for your own understanding.

